

TRIBUTE TO FRED TAYLOR

• Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and honor an outstanding citizen of Mississippi. Mr. Fred Taylor of Oxford, MS has recently retired from the Board of Directors of First National Bank. Mr. Taylor and his wife of 70 years, Jewett, have served the Oxford and Lafayette County community for 45 years.

Fred Taylor has a history of outstanding achievements that can be traced back to his high school days in Gallman, MS. Mr. Taylor was a stand-out in football, basketball, and baseball at Copiah-Lincoln Agricultural High School and, for his ability, was inducted into the Copiah-Lincoln Athletic Hall of Fame in 1989. After high school Mr. Taylor attended Mississippi State University before transferring to Transylvania University in Lexington, KY, where he lettered in football and basketball and received a degree in economics.

In his professional career, Mr. Taylor has spent time in a variety of jobs, from coaching high school football and basketball, to selling insurance, to operating his 600-acre cattle farm in Oxford, Mississippi. He has also served as the Commissioner for the Lafayette County Soil and Water Conservation District, Director of the State Soil and Water Conservation Commissioners, President of the Mississippi Cattle-men's Association, Director of the Oxford/Lafayette County Chamber of Commerce, and numerous other prestigious positions of public service.

During these years, Mr. Taylor has been recognized numerous times by his colleagues and peers for excellence in his work and dedication to his community. In 1984 he was inducted into the Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum Hall of Fame. He has also been the recipient of the Citizen of the Year Award given by the Oxford-Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, as well as numerous agricultural, soil, and conservation awards.

As I am sure you can see, Mr. Taylor has distinguished himself both personally and professionally, and he has been a valued asset to Mississippi. His record of service is not only a testament to his abilities, but also to the quality of his personal character. Oxford and Lafayette County have been well served by his commitment, guidance, and leadership and would not have been the same if it were not for his direction. It is for these reasons that I feel the need to pay tribute to him and to share his record of contributions to Mississippi with all of you here today. •

LETTER FROM DAVID A. HARRIS

• Mrs. CLINTON. Mr. President, I ask that the following letter be printed in the RECORD. The letter follows.

LETTER FROM AN ENDANGERED SPECIES, BY DAVID A. HARRIS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE, JANUARY 10, 2003

Let me put my cards on the table right up front.

I consider myself a potentially endangered species. I am—gasp!—a committed transatlanticist. Until just a short time ago that was a rather unexceptional thing to be; most people I knew on both sides of the Atlantic were, to varying degrees, in the same club. Now, in some places, it could get my picture on a "Wanted" poster.

Seemingly overnight, significant swaths of European public opinion—most strikingly in Germany, but in other countries as well—appear to have concluded that the Bush administration is hell-bent on imposing its "imperialist" vision on the world, that the American "infatuation" with the use of force as a solution to global challenges is downright hazardous, and that America pays little more than lip service to its European allies, with the possible exception of Britain, while single-mindedly pursuing a unilateralist agenda.

According to this line of thinking—often promoted by opinion molders, including, in the recent German elections, a few leading politicians—America is run by a group of modern-day "cowboys," with precious little sophistication in the ways of the world, determined to use their unchallenged superpower status to get their way on everything, be it Iraq, global warming, the International Criminal Court, or genetically modified foods, and let the rest of the world be damned if they don't like it. In response, Europe must draw appropriate conclusions and rise up essentially as a counterweight to otherwise unchecked American global domination.

This disparaging and distrustful view extends beyond politics. A new American Jewish Committee survey in Germany found that only 36 percent of the respondents rated America's cultural achievement as "very substantial or substantial," while 48 percent thought it either "hardly substantial" or "insubstantial," and 16 percent had no opinion.

And a recent grisly case involving the Internet, cannibalism, and homicide in Germany produced a telling comment from the influential Munich newspaper *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, as reported in the *International Herald Tribune* (December 19): "It is all so unreal. So haunting that one thinks such a case would only happen in the movies, perhaps in America, but not in Germany. . . ." Yes, America, of course, is capable of such bestial violence, but Germany never, we are led to believe.

Meanwhile, new generations of Europeans, increasingly fed this diet of overtly or subtly anti-American thinking, too often lose sight of the larger picture. They cannot relate easily to the backdrop of history.

That America came to Europe's rescue in two world wars of Europe's making, that America became history's most benign occupier in postwar Germany, that the U.S.-funded Marshall Plan was a key to Western Europe's astonishing reconstruction efforts, that American-led resolve and strength prevailed in the Cold War and contributed to the unification not only of Germany but of all Europe, and that America prodded a largely paralyzed Europe into decisive action against ethnic cleansing (on European soil) in the Balkans, may at best have an abstract hold on younger people's thinking, but little more.

Like their American counterparts, younger Europeans are largely focused on the here and now. They may relate to American

music, fashion, idiom, or, heaven forbid, fast food, but have an increasingly jaundiced view of America's larger place in global affairs.

At the same time, on too many levels, America largely ignores Europe, even as some voices emphasize the oceanic divide.

Perhaps the most talked-about recent essay on the subject was Robert Kagan's "Power and Weakness," which appeared in the June & July 2002 issue of *Policy Review*. It is a provocative piece well worth reading. Here's a brief excerpt:

"It is time to stop pretending that Europeans and Americans share a common view of the world, or even that they occupy the same world. On the all-important question of power—the efficacy of power, the morality of power, the desirability of power—American and European perspectives are diverging. Europe is turning away from power, or to put it a little differently, it is moving beyond power into a self-contained world of laws and rules and transnational negotiation and cooperation. It is entering a post-historical paradise of peace and relative prosperity, the realization of Kant's 'Perpetual Peace.'"

"The United States, meanwhile, remains mired in history, exercising power in the anarchic Hobbesian world where international laws and rules are unreliable and where true security and the defense and promotion of a liberal order still depend on the possession and use of military might.

"That is why on major strategic and international questions today, Americans are from Mars and Europeans are from Venus."

And noting the wide gap in perceptions of America between Eastern and Western Europe, columnist Charles Krauthammer suggested jokingly—I think—in the *Weekly Standard* (August 26) that had America let Western Europe fall under the sway of the Kremlin for a few decades, perhaps, like the nations of Eastern Europe today, it would be far more appreciative of America's world role.

In essence, the caricatured image of America in Europe has its counterpart here.

Europeans are seen as sanctimonious, self-adulatory, and wobbly at the knees. Rather than display a willingness to confront evil—that is, if they can even recognize it these days—they all too frequently seek to engage it through rationalization, negotiation, and, if necessary, appeasement via one Faustian bargain or another, all in the name, however it may be packaged, of *realpolitik*.

Look, the critics point out, at the European Union's so-called "critical dialogue" with Iran, which has been much longer on dialogue than on criticism.

Or the French flirtation with Iraq, going back to the 1970s when Jacques Chirac, as prime minister, negotiated the Osirak nuclear deal with Baghdad. Apropos, according to the *Wall Street Journal*, the last foreign country Saddam Hussein visited was France, in 1979.

Or the quiet deals several European countries, most notably France and Italy, sought to make with Palestinian terrorist groups to avoid being targeted by them.

Or the EU's unwillingness, even post-9/11, to agree on classifying Hizballah as a terrorist organization on the ostensible grounds that the group is also a "legitimate" political party in Lebanon, but actually motivated by a desire to avoid offending Syria and its satellite, Lebanon.

Or the state visits accorded to the Syrian president in London last month, complete with an audience with Queen Elizabeth, no less, or previously in Paris, Madrid, and other European capitals, while Syria illegally occupies neighboring Lebanon and cossets terrorist groups bent on Israel's total destruction.